

### **REMARKS**

Prior to examination of the above-referenced matter entry of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

The above-referenced application (hereinafter "the '950 application") was filed on August 26, 2003 under Express Mail Label No. EV 349838376 US. At the time of filing the '950 application included eight pages of specification, namely, pages 1-4 and pages 6-9. Original page 5 of the specification was inadvertently omitted from the '950 application.

A preliminary amendment, a copy of which is enclosed, was filed concurrently with the '950 application in which the "Cross Reference to Related Application" of the '950 application was amended to indicate that the '950 application was a continuation application of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/779,021 filed on February 7, 2001, the contents of which were thereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

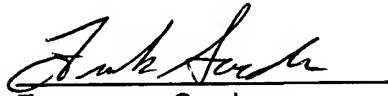
In addition, the '950 application was accompanied by a "Utility Patent Application Transmittal", a copy of which is enclosed, in which area "18" was marked to indicate that the '950 application was a continuation of prior application No. 09/779,021.

It is respectfully requested that the insertion of the above material be allowed into the specification of the '950 application being that the '950 application incorporates application No. 09/779,021 in its entirety and that the above material appears, verbatim, at page 5, lines 1 - 29 of application No. 09/779,021.

It is respectfully submitted that the present amendment to the specification of the '950 application does not add new matter. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that the present amendment to the specification of the '950 application is fully supported by application No. 09/779,021.

Early and favorable consideration of the present application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Francesco Sardone', written over a horizontal line.

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